

# Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

## Testing for COVID-19



**Call your doctor:** If you think you have been exposed to COVID-19 and develop a fever and symptoms, such as cough or difficulty breathing, call your healthcare provider for medical advice.

If you are a close contact of someone with COVID-19 or you are a resident in a community where there is ongoing spread of COVID-19 and develop [symptoms of COVID-19](#), call your healthcare provider and tell them about your symptoms and your exposure. They will decide whether you need to be tested, but keep in mind that there is no treatment for COVID-19 and people who are mildly ill may be able to isolate and care for themselves at home.

## If you are at higher risk for serious illness

[People at higher risk for serious illness from COVID-19](#) should contact their healthcare provider early, even if their illness is mild.

**Older adults and people who have severe underlying chronic medical conditions** like heart or lung disease or diabetes seem to be at higher risk for developing more serious complications from COVID-19 illness.

## If you are very sick get medical attention immediately

If you develop **emergency warning signs** for COVID-19 get **medical attention immediately**. Emergency warning signs include\*:

- Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath
- Persistent pain or pressure in the chest
- New confusion or inability to arouse
- Bluish lips or face

\*This list is not all inclusive. Please consult your medical provider for any other symptoms that are severe or concerning.

## For healthcare professionals

For information on testing for healthcare professionals, see recommendations for reporting, testing, and specimen collection at [Interim Guidance for Healthcare Professionals](#).